

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-53. (canceled)

54. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving ~~preservation~~ of a biological material, comprising:

- (a) adding a preservation solution to said biological material, ~~said preservation solution~~ comprising one or more polyphenols;
- (b) ~~cooling~~ freeze drying the biological material; and
- (c) storing the biological material at under appropriate storing conditions.

55. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 54, wherein the one or more polyphenols comprise one or more catechins.

56. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein the one or more catechins are is epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) catechins.

57. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 54, wherein the one or more polyphenols are derived from green tea extract (GTE).

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the preservation solution does not comprise a significant amount of glycerol.

59. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of~~ claim 54, wherein the preservation solution does not comprise a significant amount of DMSO.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the preservation solution comprises a macromolecule.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the macromolecule is dextran.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the preservation solution comprises trehalose.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the preservation is cryopreservation, the preservation solution is a cryopreservation solution, and the ~~cooling~~ freeze drying of step (b) is to a temperature below 0°C.

64. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 63, wherein the cryopreservation is freezing, and the cryopreservation solution is a freezing solution, ~~and the cryopreservation of step (c) is by freezing.~~

65. (Cancelled)

66. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 54, wherein the biological material comprises cells selected from the group consisting of red blood cells (RBC), white blood cells (WBC), mononuclear cells (MNC), umbilical cord blood cells (UCB), hematopoietic stem cells (HSC)[[,]] and bacteria.

67. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 66, wherein the biological material comprises RBC and the biological material is frozen such that after thawing under in appropriate thawing conditions the biological material comprises free hemoglobin levels below 10 percent.

68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 67, wherein the one or more polyphenols comprise ~~the catechin~~ epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) and the preservation solution does not comprise a significant amount of glycerol or DMSO.

69. (Currently Amedned) The method of claim 67, further comprising:

- (d) thawing the ~~said~~ biological material under ~~in~~ appropriate thawing conditions such that, after thawing, the biological material comprises RBC suspended in a liquid; and
- (e) separating the ~~said~~ RBC from said liquid.

70. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 68, ~~which~~ wherein the method does not comprise a step of washing the biological material.

71. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 69, wherein step (e) further comprises:

- (e') centrifuging the biological material such that the majority of RBC are in a pellet and the majority of the liquid is in a supernatant; and
- (e'') removing the supernatant.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 71, wherein after step (e'') the free hemoglobin levels in the pellet are below 2 percent.

73. (Previously Presented) A biological material preserved by the method of claim 54.

74. (Currently Amended) The biological material of claim 73, wherein the one or more polyphenols comprise one or more catechins.

75. (Currently Amended) The biological material of claim 74, wherein the one or more catechins are is epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) catechins.

76. (Previously Presented) The biological material of claim 73, wherein the biological material does not comprise a significant amount of glycerol.

77. (Previously Presented) The biological material of claim 73, wherein the biological material does not comprise a significant amount of DMSO.

78. (Currently Amended) The biological material of claim 73, ~~having~~ comprising less than 10% H₂O as compared with its H₂O content before preservation.

79. (Currently Amended) A frozen viable biological material₁ comprising:

~~RBC₁ and characterized in that~~

wherein after thawing ~~in~~ under appropriate thawing conditions₁ the biological material comprises free hemoglobin levels of below 2 percent.

80. (Currently Amended) The frozen biological material of claim 79, further comprising ~~having~~ essentially no glycerol.

81. (Currently Amended) The frozen biological material of claim 79, further comprising ~~having~~ essentially no DMSO.

82. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a preservation solution for preserving a biological material₁ comprising:

mixing one or more polyphenols with a physiologically acceptable carrier.

83. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 82, wherein the one or more polyphenols comprise one or more catechins.

84. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 83, wherein the one or more catechins are is epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) catechins.

85. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 81, wherein the one or more polyphenols are derived from GTE.

86. (Currently Amended) A method for the preservation of a biological material comprising RBC₁ comprising:

(a) ~~freezing~~ freeze drying the biological material under ~~in~~ appropriate ~~freezing~~ freeze drying conditions; and

(b) storing the biological material ~~at~~ under appropriate storing conditions,[[;]]

wherein ~~said method characterized in that~~ after thawing under ~~in~~ appropriate thawing conditions the biological material comprises free hemoglobin levels of below 10 percent.

87. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 86, wherein the appropriate ~~freezing~~ freeze drying conditions ~~include~~ comprise adding ~~addition of~~ a freezing solution.

88. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 86, wherein the ~~said~~ freezing solution comprises one or more polyphenols.

89. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 86, ~~the method~~ further comprising:

- (c) thawing the ~~said~~ biological material ~~[[in]]~~ under appropriate thawing conditions such that, after thawing, the biological material comprises RBC suspended in a liquid; and
- (d) separating the ~~said~~ RBC from the ~~said~~ liquid.

90. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 89, wherein step (d) further comprises:

- (d') centrifuging the biological material such that the majority of RBC are in a pellet and the majority of the liquid is in a supernatant; and
- (d'') removing the supernatant.

91. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 90, wherein ~~said~~ free hemoglobin levels are below 2 percent.

92. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving ~~preservation~~ of a biological material, comprising:

- (a) adding a preservation solution essentially free from any polyalcohol~~[[,]]~~ to ~~said~~ the biological material;
- (b) ~~cooling~~ freeze drying the biological material; and
- (c) storing the biological material under at appropriate storing conditions.

93. (Previously Presented) A preserved viable biological material, having a volume exceeding 1 ml, preserved for a period exceeding 40 days.